



**STATEMENT BY HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
CLLR TREVINO FORBES,**

**AT THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING FOR
2024,**

08 OCTOBER, 18:00

CIVIC CENTRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- Honorable Regional Councilors
- Fellow Honorable Councillors
- Mrs Victoria Nelago Kapenda, Chief Executive Officer of the Municipality of Walvis Bay
- Members of Management and staff of
the Municipality of Walvis Bay
- Members of the Media
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good evening

I would like to take a moment to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to our new Chief Executive Officer Mrs. Victoria Nelago Kapenda who joined the Municipality on the 2nd of September 2024. Mrs. Kapenda, we are thrilled to have you join us at this crucial time in our journey.

Your extensive experience and dedication to public service are qualities we're excited to see in action as you lead us forward.

For the past three years, we have navigated a challenging period that has often felt like drifting on shaky waters. I can confidently say that hiring you brings us a much-needed sense of stability and direction. With your leadership, I believe we are finally steering our ship toward calmer seas, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact you will have on our municipality.

In her short time with us, Mrs Kapenda has proactively engaged in discussions with our line minister to lobby for funds dedicated to servicing Farm 37.

This area has unfortunately become a pressing emergency that requires our immediate attention. Mrs. Kapenda's commitment to advocating for our community's needs demonstrates her determination to tackle the challenges we face head-on.

I believe that with her leadership and the support of our fellow council members, we can secure the necessary resources to address this issue effectively.

Additionally, I would like to inform everyone that we will be witnessing a significant step forward in our infrastructure improvements.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate two significant events that recently took place, showcasing our city's commitment to fostering community engagement and collaboration.

Firstly, we commend the successful completion of the Walvis Bay Maritime Week, which was hosted from the 1st to the 5th of October 2024 in Partnership with Namport.

This event not only highlighted the importance of our maritime industry but also promoted local businesses and created opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange among participants.

Additionally, we are proud to announce that the City of Windhoek was crowned the overall winner at the SAIMSA Games 2024, which was hosted by the Municipality of Walvis Bay from the 22nd to the 27th of September 2024.

Competing against more than 50 other participating local authorities from Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini, and Botswana, our athletes demonstrated exceptional skill and sportsmanship.

On 27 September 2024, Erongo Liquid Petroleum Gas Terminal had a groundbreaking ceremony to signal the commencement of the construction of its terminal.

This terminal once completed, with its substantial storage capacity, will ensure that Walvis Bay can accommodate current and future demands, paving the way for efficient supply chains and reliable access to energy resources. the economic implications are profound.

The construction phase will create numerous jobs, stimulating local economies and providing training opportunities for skilled labor. Upon completion, the terminal will support long-term employment opportunities, thus enhancing the livelihoods of many Namibians.

Thursday the 10th of October marks the groundbreaking for the commencement of roadworks by the Roads Authority and Road Fund Administration.

This development is not only a testament to our ongoing commitment to better our roads and transport systems, but it also showcases our dedication to enhancing the quality of life for our residents.

Finally, I would also like to announce that the CAF African Schools Football Championship will be hosted in Walvis Bay from the 11th to the 13th of October 2024 at the Jan Wilken Stadium. We would like to invite everyone to come out in numbers and come support the youth in this exciting championship.

With this said, let's all work together and keep this momentum going and work collaboratively and support Mrs. Kapenda in her new role to ensure we achieve our goals for the benefit of all our residents.

Thank you once again, and let's proceed with our agenda.